

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for preventing [[the]] computer recognition of data, comprising:
receiving a request to print a document;
receiving a readability value from a user, wherein the readability value is a value within a range indicating a degree of readability of a text, wherein the readability value determines the degree to which the text is non-scannable within the range between readability and non-scannability, wherein a first set of nonstandard fonts are introduced into the text at a first readability value in the range and a second set of nonstandard fonts is introduced at a second readability value in the range, and wherein the text at the second readability value is more difficult to read and more difficult to scan by an optical character recognizer than the text at the first readability value;
automatically determining at least one user preference based on the readability value;
modifying the text in the document based on the at least one user preference so that the text cannot be recognized by a character recognition algorithm; and
printing the document.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modifying comprises randomizing at least one attribute.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of randomizing comprises randomizing the at least one attribute on a character by character basis.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of randomizing comprises randomizing the attribute on a word by word basis.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one attribute comprises at least one of character rotation; typeface; font size; character effect; and spacing offset.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modifying comprises at least one of using an uncommon font;
introducing a background image or a background color;

introducing a gradient film to a background of the document; reversing background and foreground of characters; and reversing background and foreground of portions of characters.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[7]] 1, wherein the step of modifying comprises enabling modification techniques and setting modification limits based on the readability value.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving the at least one user preference from a user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of receiving the at least one user preference comprises:
presenting a user interface.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the user interface comprises a slide bar, wherein the at least one user preference comprises a readability value that is set using the slide bar.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one user preference comprises a readability value that is set using the slide bar wherein the step of modifying comprises enabling modification techniques and setting modification limits based on the readability value, and wherein modifying further comprises:
modifying a background associated with the text.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein modifying the background associated with the text further comprises:

providing a first half of a character in a first color on a first half of the background, wherein the first half of the background is a second color; and

providing a second half of the character in the second color on a second half of the background, wherein the second half of the background is associated with the first color, and wherein the first color is a different color than the second color. wherein the step of modifying comprises enabling modification techniques and setting modification limits based on the readability value.

14-20. (Canceled)